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CONSUMER PROTECTION AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS HOUSING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INSURANCE

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-0603

April 08, 2020

The Honorable Nicole R. Nason Administrator Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE Washington, DC 20590

Administrator Nason,

I write to you about the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) current May 15, 2020, submission deadline to the National Scenic Byways Program for nominations of new scenic byways and extensions to existing byways.

National Scenic Byways and All-American Roads are integral to America's landscape. Colorado's Third Congressional District is home to some of America's most well-known and admired scenic byways including the San Juan Skyway and the Trail of the Ancients. Last year, I was proud to support the *Reviving America's Byways Act*, which was subsequently signed into law by President Trump. As you are aware, this law revived the treasured National Scenic Byways Program.

However, amidst the novel, COVID-19 pandemic, I have heard concerns from constituents that they will not be able to submit nominations by the May 15th deadline. In efforts to combat COVID-19, Colorado, like most states throughout the country, has issued a mandatory stay-at-home order, which have left some prospective applicants unable to effectively coordinate among agencies and stakeholders in completing an application to meet the May 15th deadline. Therefore, I respectfully request FHWA extend the May 15th deadline by sixty days to ensure applicants are afforded adequate time to complete their applications, which seek to build upon the National Scenic Byways Program's enduring legacy. I look forward to your prompt attention to this matter and await your response.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Tipton Member of Congress